

Minutes Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board January 10, 2013

Minutes of the Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board recorded at 4:00 p.m. on January 10, 2013, within the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Shirley McKean, Chair Dr. James Schoenwetter

Jennifer Wagner

Nikki Gusz

City Staff Present:

Dr. Amy Douglass, Manager, Tempe History Museum

Guest(s) Present:

Anne Chandler

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Mary O'Grady Mark Hubble Angela Lopez Robert McKinley

Meeting convened at 4:10 p.m. Shirley McKeen, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board Chair, called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1: Consideration of the December 6, 2012, Meeting Minutes

• The meeting minutes could not be considered for approval because there was not a quorum of board members present at the meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Communications Report

- Dr. Amy Douglass, Tempe History Museum Manager, reported that she received a letter of resignation from Angela Lopez.
- New board member Nikki Gusz introduced herself and the other board members introduced themselves to her.

Agenda Item 3: Four Disciplines of Execution Goal

- Dr. Douglass stated that two displays have been installed in the main exhibit gallery:
 Cotton agriculture and Tempe's "Rough Riders."
- The next major change being planned is for a display of a freight wagon that will replace
 the two scrapers that are currently on display on the pedestal at the entrance to the exhibit
 gallery. The story of freighting ties in with the themes of diversity (since many of the
 freighters were Hispanic), the settlement of Tempe and the building of Roosevelt Dam.

Agenda Item 4: Accreditation Process

- Dr. Douglass gave an update on the four major documents that are required by the American Alliance for Museums (AAM) for accredited institutions.
 - Collections Management Policy: the Policy, Procedures and Accessions Committee will continue to work on the policy revisions.
 - Code of Ethics: Mary O'Grady and Dr. Douglass will set up a meeting to work on this document.
 - Strategic Plan: this will be a joint effort between staff and board; Dr. Douglass stated that Paul Bentley, a facilitator that works for the Tempe Police Department, has decided that he will not be able to assist due to his work load. Dr. Douglass is currently looking for another facilitator and solicited any recommendations from the board members.
 - Disaster Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan: Angela Lopez completed here research and provided reference materials to Dr. Douglass that will be useful in creating this plan.

Agenda Item 6A: Report - Public Programs Representative

- Shirley McKean, Public Programs Committee representative and Chair, reported that the Bad Cactus Brass Band performed Christmas music on December 7 while Santa took requests from children in the courtyard. There also was karaoke and crafts at the Vihel Center. A large crowd was present at this event.
- Singer-songwriter Teneia Sanders performed on January 5, 2013. In addition to singing a variety of music that she wrote, Ms. Sanders talked about her writing process. She and her two backup musicians also too questions from the audience after the performance. Unfortunately, the turnout for this event was only about 20 people.
- Shirley McKean announced that the next Third Thursday will be on January 17. The speaker will be Dr. Christine Wilkinson talking about "The New American University."
- February is African American History Month and the museum will feature an African American music and art celebration on February 9th, in cooperation with the African American Advisory Committee.
- On February 23, there will be a follow up to last year's Composition Competition.

Agenda Item 6B: Report - Policy, Procedures and Accessions

- Jennifer Wagner, representative on the Policy, Procedures and Accessions Committee (P. P.A.), reported that 5,891 individual items were cataloged into the artifact collections in 2012.
- There was one new Provisional Deposit in December of a Purple Heart medal that was awarded posthumously to Tempean Bill Hugh Tosh.
- There will be one new outgoing loan in January to the Sedona Heritage Museum of a wedding dress and shoes once belonging to Ruth Woolf Jordan for an exhibit.

Agenda Item 6C: Report - Tempe Historic Preservation Commission

• There was no report.

Agenda Item 6D: Report - Tempe Historical Society

- Anne Chandler, representative to the Tempe Historical Society Board (Society Board), stated that a marketing consultant attended the December meeting of the Society Board. However, the board felt that they still had some work to do before they were ready to launch a marketing campaign and they will be holding another retreat to get prepared.
- The latest lunch talk was on Wednesday, January 9, 2013. The speaker was Bob Boze Bell.

Agenda Item 6E: Report - Oral History Program

- Bob McKinley, Oral History Program representative, was absent.
- Dr. Amy Douglass read the report in his place.
- Volunteer Susan Jensen has completed an overall total of 53 transcriptions comprised of 1,047 pages.
- Volunteer Dr. Lynn Wright is transcribing an interview with Ophelia Celaya that was done
 in 1970. Dr. Douglass stated that Ms. Celaya was one of the original Hispanic pioneers
 to settle in Tempe so this is a significant interview.
- Volunteer Jen Sweeny has begun cataloging new oral history interviews. She will be scanning transcriptions and logs into PDF format so that they can be made available on the museum's web site.
- Curator of History Jared Smith is working on a booklet about the history of African Americans in Tempe. It is drawing heavily on a body of oral histories that were done with members of this community.
- A second interview with Dr. John Gilliland, longtime Tempe physician, will be scheduled.
 There also will be a follow-up interview with Dick Bryce.
- There are no new nominations to report.
- The next Oral History Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 6.

<u>Agenda Item 7 - Board Member Announcements</u>

There were no announcements.

Agenda Item 8 - Future Agenda Items

• Mark Vinson, City of Tempe Architect, will speak to the board at the February 5, 2013 meeting concerning current city historic preservation projects.

The next meeting of the Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board is scheduled to take place at 4 p.m. on February 7, 2013 in the Tempe History Museum Board Room, 809 E. Southern Avenue, Tempe, AZ, 85282.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Dr. Amy Douglass, Tempe History Museum Manager
Shirley McKeen, presiding as Chair, Tempe Historical Museum Advisory Board